

Medal of Valor

13 CDFers Honored

by Josh Hubbard, staff writer,
Public Education Office

On September 11, a day in which heroism will be forever linked, Governor Gray Davis presented the Medal of Valor to 35 state employees in a touching ceremony held at the California Highway Patrol (CHP) Academy in West Sacramento. Among those 35 state employees being honored for their courageous acts of heroism, 13 belonged to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

"The men and women we honor today are 'California's bravest.' No one gave them this title, they earned it with valor and courageous acts," said Governor Davis. "They are first responders and public servants who instinctively serve others without hesitation."

The Medal of Valor stands as the highest honor the State can bestow on its employees, and is awarded to individuals who have performed an extraordinary act of heroism above and beyond the call of duty.

"This is not the stuff of Hollywood," said Davis. "They are an inspiration to every Californian who are looking for heroes to emulate."

The California Medal of Valor was created in 1959 to honor state employees for heroic acts of protecting life and/or property. Since their inception, the Gold Medal of Valor has been awarded 299 times and the Silver Medal of Valor has been awarded 47 times.

"We are so very proud of all



From L to R Back Row: Fire Captain Mike Brunson, San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit; Jim Mathias, Amador-El Dorado Unit; Firefighter Paul Carlos, Butte Unit; Firefighter Joe Saunders, City of Folsom Fire Department; and Battalion Chief Mike Boren, Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit.

From L to R Middle Row: Fire Captain Darryl Sanford, Butte Unit; Fire Captain Phil Gomez, Fresno-Kings Unit; Fire Captain Sean Norman, Butte Unit; and Fire Captain Tom Oldag, Amador-El Dorado Unit.

From L to R Front Row: Firefighter Will Krings, City of Fremont; Fire Captain Jeff Hawkins, Butte Unit; Director Tuttle, Fire Captain Mike Carr, Butte Unit; and Fire Captain Branson "Skip" Ratsep, San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit.

our CDF personnel who work hard and take risks everyday to protect California's people and the environment. They are all heroes," said CDF Director Andrea Tuttle during the ceremony. "These individuals honored here have demonstrated selfless actions to save others from tragedy."

The following seven accounts summarize the heroic actions of the 13 CDF employees honored with the Governor's Medal of Valor.

Fire Captain Felipe Gomez

On April 30, 2001, CDF Fire Captain Felipe Gomez, on his way to report to his station near Fresno, witnessed a traffic acci-

dent involving a Central Unified School District bus and a pickup. Upon impact, the pickup burst into flames. Captain Gomez quickly assessed the situation and realized that there was a fire station with paramedics located 300 feet west of the accident. He immediately proceeded to the station to summon the paramedics and quickly returned to the accident scene. When he arrived the pickup was fully involved in flames which were impinging on the drivers' side of the bus. Several adults were helping the children from the bus, when Captain Gomez noticed that the bus driver was trapped in her seat. Unable to completely open

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the door, Captain Gomez crawled under the broken handle and entered the bus. With heavy smoke and flames all around him, Captain Gomez managed to extricate the driver from her seat and pulled her through an opening in the passenger door. Captain Gomez noticed the serious injuries that the bus driver, Lynette Zavala, had suffered and stayed with her until paramedics took over. Lynette suffered many broken bones and burns to over 65-percent of her body; injuries that she succumbed a few days after the incident. Captain Gomez was transported to a nearby hospital and treated for smoke inhalation. Captain Gomez's actions exemplify the courage and compassion in the face of immediate danger that earned him the Medal of Valor.

Battalion Chief Mike Boren

On August 20, 2001, Battalion Chief Mike Boren responded to a vegetation fire in the eastern portion of Madera County, near Bass Lake. The fire, fueled by wind, heat and 100+ degree temperatures was rapidly spreading through the mixed brush and evergreen fuels located on the 5 to 20 acre residential parcels that firefighters were attempting to save. Chief Boren was escorting a reporter around the incident when the fire flared up. During the course of initial attack, an airtanker located a resident whose escape route had been blocked by heavy smoke and fire. Chief Boren knew the exact location being discussed and quickly transferred his passenger to a safe area and responded to

the distressed resident. Driving through almost impossible conditions, Chief Boren located the resident along with two of her neighbors. Realizing his vehicle didn't have room for three passengers, Chief Boren advised the group to roll up the windows in the car and follow right on his bumper. The journey through the flames and smoke provided zero visibility, but Chief Boren was able to lead them to safety. Firefighters, air supervisors and pilots witnessing the event agreed that the stranded residents would not have been able to reach safety without the actions of Chief Boren. His commanding presence, quick actions and courage earned him the Medal of Valor.

Fire Captain Mike Carr

In September 2001, the Poe Fire in Butte County burned more than 8,000 acres and destroyed 26 homes. CDF Fire Captain Mike Carr, assigned as a Structure Group Supervisor, and his two strike teams of local government engines were forced to evacuate the area in which they were working due to a significant push the fire was making. As he was driving out of the area, Chief Carr was informed of a trapped resident in the area that they had just evacuated. Chief Carr quickly returned to the area in intense fire conditions and located the inebriated man. It took several attempts to convince the man to evacuate the area immediately. As they proceeded to safety, Chief Carr encountered heavy smoke and large volumes of flames, however, his heroic actions saved

a life that day. By the way, Captain Carr is no stranger to heroism. This is the second occasion in which he was awarded the Medal of Valor. In 1997 he rescued a family trapped by floodwaters.

Fire Captain Mark Brunson

On September 10, 2001, Captain Mark Brunson was part of an engine strike team working in the Doud's Landing area of the Darby Incident in the Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit. En-route to their assignment, Captain Brunson's engine and the engine he was following stopped to attack a spot fire near the roadside. The fire activity began to severely escalate and Captain Brunson noticed the watch out situations that are taught to all firefighters. Captain Brunson warned everybody and began to move the equipment to a safe location. He called for all the crews to abandon fire control operations and move to a safety zone. After he moved the engine parked in front of him, Captain Brunson returned to his own engine on foot because conditions were too bad for him to be transported. Heavy smoke, heat and flames provided a perilous situation, but Captain Brunson made it to the engine. When he arrived, he found a captain and six firefighters in the cab with fire shelters deployed over the windows. Captain Brunson entered the vehicle and drove the engine to safety. His alert knowledge of fire conditions and his swift actions saved his crew from a dangerous situation, earning him the Medal of Valor.

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***Fire Captain Jeff Hawkins
Firefighter Joe Saunders
Firefighter Paul Carlos
Fire Captain Darryl Sanford
Firefighter Will Krings***

The next five men are honored for their courageous response and actions during the Concow fire, 15 miles north of Oroville, on September 19, 2000.

Fire Captain Jeff Hawkins along with firefighters Joe Saunders and Paul Carlos, as part of Engine 72, were checking out residences on Stagecoach Lane when Captain Hawkins noticed a shift in wind direction that caused the smoke column to shift over their location. Not long after that firebrands ignited multiple spot fires ahead and behind them, and many of those fires were gaining in intensity. The main fire was burning toward a home on Stagecoach Lane and Captain Hawkins radioed for help. Engine 71's Captain Darryl Sanford headed south toward Captain Hawkins location and informed him that they would attempt to protect the first home.

Captain Hawkins, knowing they were in a severe fire area, moved Engine 72 to the driveway of the first home and asked his firefighters if they thought they could get the residents out of the mobile home at the end of the road. The three members of Engine 72 unanimously agreed that the rescue could be completed. Upon arrival they found the occupants, Ray and Richard McCarty, attempting to save their house. Captain Hawkins advised the two of the need for immediate evacuation and the

engine crew loaded the two residents and their dog into the engine cab and drove to safety.

Shortly after the rescue effort by Engine 72, Captain Darryl Sanford, with Butte County Engine 71 and firefighter Will Krings, moved south on Stagecoach Lane where they found a structure surrounded on three sides by approaching 40-foot flames. Captain Sanford entered the home to rescue 67-year-old Beverly Brooks who was overcome with emphysema. Captain Sanford assisted the resident into the back bedroom as the fire spread into the home's kitchen and front room. Numerous times Captain Sanford struggled to get the overcome victim out of the house by the small, high bedroom window. He could hear the fire burning in the attic and throughout the house. As the fire began to enter and flash over the bedroom ceiling, Captain Sanford had to jump for his own life. Despite his heroic effort to save Beverly Brooks, the Concow resident died in her house. Captain Sanford suffered first and second degree burns on his hands, back, elbow and face and was off-duty for three weeks recovering. Firefighter Krings immediately helped Captain Sanford to safety and provided medical assistance.

***Fire Captain Tom Oldag
Fire Captain Sean Norman
Fire Captain Jim Mathias
Fire Captain Skip Ratsep***

On February 2, 1998 during a 17 hour period at Pescadero Station 59, Captains Tom Oldag, Sean Norman, Jim Mathias and Skip Ratsep, assisted by the Half Moon Bay Fire District, took part

in the rescue of 16 people, ages ranging from 9 months to 86 years old, who were trapped in the top story of a two story apartment complex.

In order to rescue the last five stranded victims from the complex, it was necessary for the men to bore through a wall to gain access to the victims. Then the men guided the residents along 200 feet of rescue line through strong currents all the while avoiding floating objects, vehicles, furniture and tanks. The water had formed a lake that was ½ mile wide and two to five feet deep.

All of these CDFers put their lives on the line in order to help others in need and by doing so have earned the highest honor of Californian heroes.

Everyday throughout the United States the men and women of emergency response agencies make tremendous sacrifices protecting the public. It is a special honor for these individuals to be recognized for their heroic and courageous acts that extend beyond the call of duty. It is this honor and devotion to duty that builds the proud traditions that CDF enjoys today. "CDF is filled with dedicated professionals who often put their lives on the line to serve others," said Director Tuttle.

CDF Honored at the “Governor’s Employee Safety Awards”

Created in 1980, the Governor’s Employee Safety Awards (GESA) program recognizes individuals and groups of employees or departments who distinguish themselves through outstanding safety and health service to the state. On August 22, 2003, CDF was honored at the 23rd annual Governor’s Employee Safety Awards Ceremony with two awards.

An individual Safety Award was received by Heavy Fire Equipment Operator (HFEO) Richard Noonan of the Mendocino Unit, and a Departmental Award was given to CDF for Reducing Costs of Work Related Injuries for the fiscal year 2001/2002 in comparison to 2000/2001 for departments with payroll over \$150,000. The awards were presented by Sailaja Cherukuri, Chief of Staff, State and Consumer Services Agency and Director of the Office of the Insurance Advisor.

The individual award received by HFEO Richard Noonan was given for his efforts in improving safety for HFEOs through his research on D4E dozers. There are a large number of safety hazards associated with dozers used in firefighting on uneven terrain, steep slopes, and in low visibility due to smoke and weather conditions. If you add to these hazards an unsafe vehicle, the potential for serious accidents exponentially increases.

Director Andrea Tuttle, HFEO Richard Noonan

HFEO Noonan conducted research on the suspected unsafe operational capability of the Caterpillar D4E Bulldozers. He obtained detailed information from Caterpillar about the D4E and compared it to the D4Es CDF had in service. He discovered modifications had been made to meet operational and transport needs. Although the modifications met these needs, the unexpected result was a vehicle with a high center of gravity and too much weight to operate safely in fire fighting conditions. This particular dozer rolls over easily on steep slopes. HFEO Noonan interviewed retired and working HFEOs who had operated the D4Es and took extensive pictures of the dozer in operation. His research demonstrated that the D4E dozer is too heavy for a short track frame. It

is also underpowered, top heavy, and unstable. HFEO Noonan’s research led to the D4E dozers being removed from service.

The Department Award for reducing the cost of work related injuries was given to recognize the CDF’s commitment to make the workplace environment safer for employees and excellence in workers’ compensation case management. CDF Director, Andrea Tuttle accepted the plaque on behalf of the department. The plaque will be displayed in the reception area at 1300 “U” Street, Sacramento.



From left to right: Battalion Chief Todd Derum, Mendocino Unit; Director Andrea Tuttle; Executive Secretary Barbara Glavich, Mendocino Unit; Heavy Fire Equipment Operator Richard Noonan, Mendocino Unit; Deputy Director for Fire Protection Jim Wright; Chief Deputy Director Ray Snodgrass; Deputy Chief, Fire Protection Loyde Johnson, Mendocino Unit; Deputy Chief, Resource Management Bruce Strickler, Mendocino Unit.

Fire Prevention Specialist Harry Martin

Dear Director Tuttle,

The Press Democrat recently organized a Weather Spotter's class in Santa Rosa. With the help of Fire Prevention Officer Harry Martin of your Santa Rosa office, the class was a great success.

Fifty people attended the class, and the professional dedication of public servants like Mr. Martin was greatly appreciated by all. It was a pleasure to work with him.

Sincerely,

Catherine Thorpe
Online Content Manager
The Press Democrat

Malibu Fire

Dear Director Tuttle,

On behalf of the City Council, our City Staff and the entire Malibu community, I would like to take this opportunity to express our most heartfelt appreciation for the invaluable service you and your outstanding personnel offered us during the recent fires.

During times of crisis, it is reassuring to know that we can always count on the expertise and courage of countless professionals outside our city limits. Your immediate response to offer assistance after hearing about the emergency played an integral role in the swift and successful conclusion to this potentially disastrous situation.

Please express our sincere gratitude and respect to your entire crew and commend them for once again showing us the true meaning of the word "hero." Your steadfast determination to

protect and preserve the homes, businesses and citizens of Malibu will not be forgotten.

Please be assured that we will do all within our power to emulate the level of dedication to public service that you and your colleagues recently exhibited.

With deep appreciation
Jeffrey D. Jennings
Mayor
City of Malibu

Newcastle Disease

Dear Director Tuttle,

I would like to recognize the outstanding contribution of your employees towards eradicating Exotic Newcastle Disease from the state. Although it's certainly not a wildland fire, your staff has brought a high level of professionalism and expertise to an entirely new emergency scenario. The participation of CDF firefighters in this emergency response will prove key to our success in eradicating the disease from the state. Please extend my personal thanks to those that have participated in the effort.

Sincerely,
William (Bill) J. Lyons, Jr.
Secretary
California Dept. of Food &
Agriculture

Paradise Fire

Dear CDF Firefighters

On behalf of the facilities department at Valley View Casino, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your response by addressing the critical need of our property, as we were acutely affected by the recent wildfires. I would like to especially thank those

individual's who appeared during the aftermath whose expertise, loyalty and outstanding customer service have enabled our property to recover from a very distressing time following the October 2003 paradise wildfires.

Your commitment and efforts have been recognized by me personally and by the Valley View Casino Management Team as being one of the companies whose commitment has allowed my department to work effectively, bringing the property, its employees and families to a sense of normalcy as expeditiously as possible following the wildfires.

Thank you for your outstanding commitment to great customer service and the prompt assistance you have provided to our facility at Valley View Casino.

Sincerely,

Don Haig, Director of Facilities
Valley View Casino

Oak Pine Ranch extends their appreciation

"My name is Greg Reyes. I am the owner of the Oak Pine Ranch in Gustine. I wanted to take a moment to thank you and the CDF team for your hard work and dedication.

I am thrilled that your team was able to save our cabins and sporting clay course. I have a true appreciation and respect for what the CDF does. The dedication, hard work and professionalism of your team was truly impressive!

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We are lucky to have the dedicated men and women of the CDF."

Sincerely,
Greg Reyes
Oak Pine Ranch

Annie Fire

Dear Director Tuttle

We are writing this letter of commendation to the California Department of Forestry for their efforts in saving our cabin.

On August 25th, lightning strikes started the small Annie fire. My brother-in-law and I went up to our cabin and we saw the increasing fire. The helicopter dropped some firemen who put some of the fire out and the helicopter returned and made several water drops. Slurry bombers dropped liquids and other spotting planes circled. We became very alarmed. Later in the evening we went back to the cabin and were met by FAE Steve Volmer (CDF Morgan Hill) and FC Phill Guevara (CDF Pacheco). Steve and Phill asked us many, many questions on the location of the fire roads, water, cabins, occupants, etc. On their advice we left the cabin and returned to our ranch home in Gustine stating that we would return the next morning. We contacted Steve Bell of the Gustine volunteer fire department and reiterated our concern about the growing fire.

In the morning we returned to the Husong Deer Club cabin to find the area around the cabin had been totally cleaned up, trees had been pruned, the cabin was secured and latched down to minimize access. We could see the fire had made huge progress through the night and was close

to our cabin. There were several fire units and engines in our cabin parking lot. Within a couple of hours the fire was there, and members of a Department of Corrections, CYA and CDF crews stopped the fire. It did not burn the cabin stopping 15 to 20 feet from there. To prevent that, other helicopters dropped water and bulldozers were brought in to protect the cabin.

Later in the day club members Bruce Carey, Pete Mills, and I accompanied Scott Vaughn in his four wheel drive vehicle and identified area where the fire could be stopped and provided information as requested. We also worked closely with firefighters by the name of Mr. Lopez out of Butte County and Mr. Carter. The cooperation and the quality of the work of this unified team in saving our cabin was marvelous.

On Thursday, we again met Steve Volmer and Phill Guevara and they told us the information that we provided them was helpful. We can say in total unity, praise for the Department of Forestry in the work they did on the Annie fire to protect the Husong Deer Club.

Sincerely,
James P. Jorgensen
Husong Deer Club

Dear Firefighters:

May I express my gratitude and congratulations to all who worked so hard and faithfully in putting out the Annie Fire caused by lightning on August 25, 2003. This was one of many magnificent achievements in the preservation of life and property. Please know that you are an inspiration

to your community, and we thank you for all of your contributions throughout the years.

Sincerely,
Barbara S. Matthews
Assemblymember, 17th District

Lightning fires in Alameda County

Dear Director Tuttle,

In August, the eastern areas of Alameda County were besieged with a series of lightning strikes that caused many fires in remote areas of Alameda, Santa Clara and Stanislaus Counties. The Alameda County Fire Department, along with the California Department of Forestry (CDF), initially responded to the calls. The number and size of the fires quickly overwhelmed the initial responding units. As you are aware, the Santa Clara Complex grew to over 30,000 acres before the fires were controlled.

I had an opportunity to witness firsthand the work performed by the CDF Incident Management Team 2 as they coordinated resources for the incident at our County EOC. Viewing the fire from the air I observed the complexity and the challenge of fighting fires in remote areas. You should be extremely proud of the job done by CDF. Their expertise and hard work contained the fires and saved many structures in rural Alameda County from destruction.

On behalf of the residents of Alameda County, I send my

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personal thanks for the hard work and professionalism of your agency.

Sincerely,
Scott Haggerty
Alameda County Supervisor,
District 1

Canoe Creek Fire

Dear Director Tuttle

On behalf of state park professionals in all disciplines, I want to extend sincere thanks to the employees of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for all the effort put toward containment of the Canoe Creek Fire in Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Over 2,000 workers were engaged in the suppression effort for more than a month. Each person deserves recognition for their hard work, effective action and sensitivity to the priceless resources contained within one of California's oldest and most treasured State Parks. The Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, CDC personnel and Incident Command Team 5 all provided outstanding leadership during the suppression campaign.

Now that the fire has been contained we look forward to a collaborative effort with your agency to repair suppression damage, assess the long-term effects and restore the natural resource qualities within and around the park. Within days after the fire was contained, your personnel were already at work on this task. We sincerely appreciate the commitment of Unit Chief Tom Osipowich, Kevin O'Neill, Jim Moranda, Ron Samuelson, Bruce Beck, Mike Bradley, Mark Koble, and Heather Brent.

Soon our two agency staffs will

be conducting a joint meeting to review all aspects of this incident. I expect recommendations to come from that meeting to guide our actions in the future. I am personally committed to enhancing an already good working relationship so that we can provide even better levels of public service.

Sincerely,
Ruth Coleman
Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

Dear Mr. Osipowich

The Board of Directors for Weott Community Services District would like to take this opportunity to extend sincerest gratitude for your efforts in saving our water source located in Humboldt Redwoods State Park that was threatened by the Canoe Creek fire.

The springs that were threatened by the fire are the sole source of water for the entire town of Weott. The location of the fire was within imminent proximity of our springs and if it was not contained around the acreage where our source was located, it would have been devastating to the residents of our town.

We feel that, because of your dedication and leadership, the utmost attention was paid to our special circumstances and a disaster was avoided.

Please convey our admiration and thanks to your staff and support that worked to contain the fire, with special thanks to Ron Samuelson and Bruce Lohman.

Sincerely,
Brien Smith, Chair
Jeanne Milligan, Director

Suzanne VanMeter, Director
Harry P. Pritchard, Director
Jerry Harmon, Director
Weott Community Services District

2002 California State Employees Charitable Campaign

Dear Director Tuttle:

It is my pleasure to advise you that preliminary reports indicate the 2002 California State Employees Charitable Campaign (CSECC) will be successful in its efforts in the Sacramento area. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection can take pride in the fact that it has made a significant contribution CSECC. Your enthusiastic support and active participation are deeply appreciated, and have been a significant factor in your department's success.

Please express my appreciation to your staff, especially those who participated as Key Campaigners. As a result of their generosity and caring, your department was able to raise over \$30,000 for the Capital Region CSECC. These personal gifts help ensure that non-profit agencies can sustain the numerous programs provided for members of our community.

Much of the credit for your successful campaign must go to your Department Chair, Dan Lang. His leadership, enthusiasm and personal commitment were a large factor in the achievements of your department's fund raising campaign. He is a highly profes-

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sional representative of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. I was privileged to be able to have such a competent and caring person to work with.

Together, we will build more caring, compassionate communities. On behalf of those who will benefit from the State Employees Campaign, please accept our gratitude.

Sincerely,
Janel Hernandez,
Loan Executive
California State Employees
Charitable Campaign

Letter of Appreciation

California Department of
Forestry and Fire Protection:

My husband Rex and I know that we have our home today because of the tremendous effort made on Thursday June 26 and Friday June 27, 2003 by all concerned.

Hour after hour of intense heat and wind, there were planes, helicopters and ground crews working relentlessly, doing a fantastic job. We know that if we had lost our home, it would not have been for lack of effort on anyone's part. Even when it seemed to dark for the fighters to keep going we could see the dedication they put forth to put out the raging fire.

What a wonderful feeling it was for us to drive up to our home early Saturday morning and find it and our neighbors homes safe!

It seems like such a little thing just to say "THANK YOU", but please know it's from our hearts.

Sincerely,
Norma Fisher
Wofford Heights, CA

Pacific Fire

Dear Director Tuttle:

On behalf of the men and women of Los Angeles County, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to you and all the members of your department for their hard work during the Pacific Fire on January 6, 2003 in Malibu, California. Although I was out of the country during the fire and some time has passed, it does not diminish my admiration of your efforts that helped avert a major disaster

Your help through this unexpected and hazardous incident is appreciated by all the citizens and residents of this community. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,
Zev Yaroslavsky
Los Angeles County Board of
Supervisors

California Forest Pest Council

Dear Director Tuttle,

I would like to thank you for allowing your staff to participate in the California Forest Pest Council meetings in Idyllwild and Lake Arrowhead on May 14th and 15th. Attendance was close to 50 both days, and the meetings were very successful.

It is frightening to see the extent of the conifer mortality in Southern California. It is however, gratifying to see the work that is being carried out by CDF, the Forest Service, and Southern California Edison, just to mention a few of the agencies involved.

There is perhaps a once in a lifetime opportunity here to educate the public about forest

management and the need to actually thin and occasionally cut a tree before it dies.

I would like to single out the work of Kathleen Edwards of CDF in the planning, logistics, and even putting on a barbeque for early arrivals. She went way beyond that expected of a CDF employee in my view. With the assistance of Kevin Turner and Doug Forrest, the meeting went off without a hitch.

Thanks so much for your support. If we, of the California Forest Pest Council, can be of assistance, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely,
Scott A. Johnson, Chairman
California Forest Pest Council

CDF dispatch clerk Diane Grove delivers baby over phone

*by Teri Mizuhara, fire prevention
specialist II, Amador-El Dorado
Unit*

CDF Dispatch Clerk Diane Grove thought medics would arrive in time to help Mimi Fontanilla with her delivery but there was no stopping little Lucas from his agenda for the day. In less than eight minutes Mimi Fontanilla safely delivered her son Lucas with a little help from friend Araceli Arretche and much appreciated guidance from AEU Dispatcher Diane Grove. By the time the local fire department arrived on scene, Lucas was resting comfortably bundled in a towel on his mother's stomach.

Shortly before Lucas Fontanilla's arrival, Mrs.

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Fontanilla told her friend that she had begun labor and then called her husband in San Jose where he works as a police officer, and said that he should start home because today was the day. Mrs. Fontanilla went upstairs to shower and pack while Mrs. Arretche placed her son into his car seat and was watching Mrs. Fontanilla's 15 month old son Richard. Suddenly Mrs. Fontanilla screamed that her water broke and she had to push. Mrs. Arretche ran upstairs with Richard tucked under her arm and helped her friend to a sofa. Quickly both women realized that they would not make it to the hospital.

Mrs. Arretche called 911. Dispatcher Grove said that Mrs. Arretche indicated that there was no time to get to the hospital and that the contractions were coming quickly. Grove immediately dispatched the engine and medic unit then turned her attention to Mrs. Arretche and Mrs. Fontanilla. All of the sudden Mrs. Arretche said she saw the baby's head and three pushes later, Lucas arrived crying but healthy at 7 pounds 3 ounces.

About 30 minutes after the original call from his wife, Officer Fontanilla received a second call not to rush home because his son had arrived.

In ten years of dispatching, this is Dispatcher Groves first delivery over the phone. After the medics arrived, Grove turned to the Dispatcher next to her and said "Man, that was so cool!"

Mrs. Arretche had nothing but praise for Grove "she walked me through everything, she was awesome!"

Devil Fire

Dear Chief Dave Driscoll,
On behalf of some of the property owners from Eyer Mountain in Livermore, we have to thank all of the extremely hardworking and dedicated fire crews who fought at the Devils Fire. Without their highly dedicated professional teamwork and skills there are several of us who would have lost our dwellings.

We would like to especially thank the CDF Units from: Morgan Hill, Lassen, Fortuna, Ukiah, San Jose, Santa Clara, San Luis Obispo, Sonoma, Mendocino, Oakland, Butte/Butte Meadows, Sea Ranch, Nevada City counties, also the Alameda County Fire Department crews and the East Bay Regional Park. We had the honor of meeting and expressing our most humble thanks to many of your crewmembers personally.

There is no way we will ever be able to express our complete thanks and gratitude to all these hardworking and dedicated people ourselves. We were especially thankful that the area on the property was of some use to your units as a camp for your equipment and personnel.

Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts for all the hard work done by all firefighters on the Devil Fire.

Sincerely

Jim and Debby Fry of Fremont
Helen, Leonard and Leslie Martin of Palo Alto
Norm and Barbara Remoaldo of Fremont
Brett and Carol Remoaldo of Fremont
Kathy Kessell of Paradise.

Recycling Dump Fire

Dear Director Tuttle:

I just wanted to take a moment and say thank you for all the hard work the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection put forth in helping the City of Fresno fight the fire at a recycling dump site in the Southwestern part of our City. Your CDF staffers did a tremendous job battling something that had never been dealt with before in this city.

The members of your department constantly maintained a dedicated work ethic from the time they arrived in January until the fire was declared contained in February. The citizens of Fresno and I are eternally grateful for the sacrifice they made to extinguish this fire in the fastest and safest way possible.

Sincerely,
Alan Autry, Mayor
City of Fresno

Harris Grade Fire

Dear Director Tuttle:

I am writing you to let you know my thoughts CDF Chief Inspector Mike Cole in connection with the recovery of approximately \$1.8 million for the Harris Grade Fire of September, 2000.

Specifically, the Harris Grade Fire was caused by a spark from a power pole on Nuevo Energy Company's Lompoc oil and gas lease. Because that company failed to remove the weeds from around the power poles for a distance of ten feet the dry weeds spread the fire to nearby wild

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lands, and a 10,000 acre fire was underway. It was only through the quick and expert actions of Mike Cole that an investigation was put in place immediately after the starting of the fire to preserve evidence that later proved that the spark starting this fire set was within the ten foot area that should have been cleared of weeds around the power pole. Otherwise, there would have been no fire cost of recovery in this case.

Because of Mike Cole's quick and expert action in this case (termed by many in the oil and gas industry as the best ever seen by a governmental agency) that I was presented with virtually irrefutable evidence that a violation of law caused this fire. After the usual legal matters that attend a civil prosecution to convince Nuevo's insurance company of the merit of this claim, Nuevo stipulated to a judgment of \$1.2 million for CDF's fire suppression costs. In addition to the unreimbursed fire suppression costs. Thus, Mike Cole's quick action and expertise led directly to the recovery of \$1.452 million for the State and the County of Santa Barbara.

I was so impressed with the professionalism that I saw in Mike Cole and all those who assisted him in this investigation that I am taking this rather unprecedented step of writing a letter to his supervisor to let her know how well he is doing and how productive he has been for fire suppression cost reimbursement in this County.

Thank you and Mike Cole for being there both for the County and the State. Justice was done in this case only because of the

efforts of Mike Cole.

Very truly yours,
Jerry N. Lulejian
Senior Deputy District Attorney

Friday Fire

Dear Fred Flores:

On behalf of the Northern California Interagency Incident Management Team II (NorCal TeamII) and firefighters, thank you for your assistance and support during the Friday Fire Incident. We appreciate you providing the team with invaluable assistance as the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Agency Representative.

You anticipate and recognize incident needs while offering workable solutions. You were also a tremendous asset to the Operations Section. You had a great handle on all CDF resources, their availability, drive times, and willingness to work 12-hour shifts, and sleep in a fire camp. The Operations Section is not aware of any issues with the use of these resources. You are very responsive to the team's needs, while always available to answer a question. You attended all meetings and briefings, and always had a great attitude. Above all, you proudly represent your agency-CDF, and the vital relationship with the fire service at-large.

NorCal Team II thanks you and all the CDF resources for your professionalism and hard work-all of which helped lead to the rapid containment and control of the Friday Fire. All of your efforts were really appreciated by our team.

Again, thank you for your support. It takes all of us working together to manage a fire suppres-

sion incident, and your staff has contributed in a positive manner to the efficient and safe suppression for this incident.

With sincere gratitude,
John Wendt
Incident Commander
Jim Gaichino
Deputy Incident Commander

Jump Fire

Webmaster

As a resident of Mines Road please accept our gratitude for the valiant effort of your men. It is amazing that only one out building was lost. It could have been so much worse. When I saw the orange glow on Friday morning (when the fire made an unexpected run north up the ridge) I was terrified. It was comforting to know those men risked their lives to save ours. I've watched the procession of trucks and tired men and they took turns on the fire line. I wish I could thank each and every one personally. There aren't words enough to express our gratitude.

Your website provided the updates we needed to make proper decisions regarding possible evacuation.

Thank you for the work you do and for an excellent website.

Rick Cooksey, National Director of the Forest Legacy Program

Dear Director Tuttle,
I recently attended the Land Trust Alliance annual rally in Austin, Texas. While there, I had

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the great fortune of meeting and visiting with Rick Cooksey, National Director of the Forest Legacy Program. During the course of my discussion with Rick, it became clear that I was remiss in showing my gratitude to Jeff Calvert, the California Forest Legacy Coordinator, for his role in the Howe Creek Ranch Conservation Easement.

Mr. Cooksey was not aware that my family's Howe Creek Ranch was under easement; in fact he was under the impression that the project had failed. I was delighted to tell him the news that our (the Hackett family, The Pacific Forest Trust, and the State of California) Howe Creek Ranch project was in fact complete and a great success!

The point that I would like to emphasize is that our project would not have happened without Forest Legacy, and specifically, I don't believe it would have happened without Jeff Calvert. I make this statement having had the experience of being significantly involved in the fund raising for the project; having drafted the funding proposals and hosted the various funding agencies, and I worked directly with The Pacific Forest Trust to create legislative support. It was my observation that the tables turned for our fundraising effort on July 27, 2001, during a ranch tour with representatives from Forest Legacy, the Wildlife Conservation Board, and the Coastal Conservancy. On that tour, Mr. Calvert's enthusiasm, excitement and specific understanding of the public benefits inherent in the project's type working landscape conservation, affected optimism in those other agencies on that

day that built the coalition that precipitated doing the deal.

I regret that PFT chose not to accept Forest Legacy money. Since meeting with Mr. Cooksey, I fear that PFT's decision may have been damaging to California's credibility in the Forest Legacy Program. I would have preferred to have followed through with Forest Legacy, as I told PFT back in February. Regardless of how it turned out, it should be known that Forest Legacy was instrumental in facilitating the Howe Creek Ranch Conservation Easement. Further, I believe that California Forest Legacy stands as the best suited vehicle for accomplishing working forestland conservation in the State.

We were hoping to have an easement celebration picnic on the ranch, but since the close of escrow in late August, operational responsibilities and the materialization of new conservation project requests have overwhelmed my wife Jill and me. We still intend to have that picnic, however, and hope that we can schedule it when you are in Humboldt County so that you and Director Tuttle can attend.

Steve Hackett
Howe Creek Ranch
Mike Waldron

Mike Waldron

Dear John Tennant

I wanted to thank you for allowing Mike Waldron to participate in our annual meeting. Mike did an excellent job in representing your office and I believe he has fostered a better relationship between our membership and the State Fire Marshal's Office.

We have always appreciated

your effort to work closely with our association and we have subsequently experienced better communications and a greater cooperation than we have ever had in the past. We believe that both Mike and Pat Sanchez should be given a lot of credit for accomplishing this. It has been refreshing to have telephone calls responded to, questions answered and communications kept open. Mike is also putting a lot of effort into the Advisory Committee and the subsequent work groups. I want to take this opportunity to commend Mike's efforts to you, because from our perspective he is a tremendous asset to both you and us. I always appreciate hearing about the good things that those who work under me do and so I am glad to do so to you about one of your staff.

Sincerely,
Darrell Hefley
CALSAFE President

Arson and Bomb Investigation Unit

Dear Deputy Chief Bob Monsen,

Recently the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Arson and Bomb Investigation Unit hosted their Advanced Bomb and Explosives Investigation for the Hazardous Devices/HAZMAT Technicians course at your facility. This class was attended by over 40 bomb and HAZMAT Technicians course at your facility. This class was attended by over 40 bomb and HAZMAT technicians from across the nation, belonging to

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various federal, state, county, military, and local fire and law enforcement agencies.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to your entire staff at the facility. I truly appreciate the assistance provided by Steve Herzog, Steve Lawshe, Nancy Koerperich, Debra Fraser and

her kitchen staff. They all worked hard in making this class a great success. There were several outstanding comments made by the students about the facility, the classroom, and food at the academy.

On behalf of the CDF's Arson and Bomb Unit, thank you and

your staff for a job well done!

Sincerely,
Joseph W. Konefal
Supervising Arson and Bomb
Investigator

Dave Sapsis

Dear Mr. Bill Stewart:

On November 2, 2002 Dave Sapsis of your staff made a superb presentation at The Sea Ranch Forum. The Sea Ranch is located at the northwest corner of Sonoma County, partly on coastal meadows separated by cypress hedgerows, partly in mixed redwood and fir forests. Forty years ago the developer of The Sea Ranch planted nearly a million pines, many of which are nearing the end of their lives. In the past year, The Sea Ranch has accelerated its efforts to protect

itself against devastating fires by adopting a comprehensive fuel management plan.

Dave's presentation gave us the basics we need to understand the nature of fire, the risks we incur by living in a fire-prone area, and some of the things that we can do as individuals to reduce the risks. Dave's presentation was clear and understandable for people who have come to our hybrid urban/wildland community with little background on the wildland risks. The mark of Dave's success is that people on

The Sea Ranch often comment on his presentation and are acting on the knowledge he presented so clearly and effectively.

We are particularly appreciative that Dave made the long trip to The Sea Ranch to make his presentation on a Saturday. We appreciate Dave's dedication, knowledge, and teaching abilities.

Sincerely,
James A. Jordan, Jr., Chair
The Sea Ranch Forum
Steering Committee

Fire Captain Sam McMurry honored

Each year in a cooperative effort, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and the Marine Corps League honor the fire and law enforcement officers and public safety agencies that serve Lassen County. Awards are presented to employees of each agency who have consistently demonstrated a commitment to service above and beyond the scope of their normal duties.

For 2003, Fire Captain Sam McMurry was selected as the award recipient for the California Department of Forestry and Fire



Protection, Lassen-Modoc Unit.

Captain McMurry, who is currently assigned to the Bieber Fire Station, was recognized for

his dedication to public service and to his department. While FC McMurry's contributions are too many to list, several were cited during the Awards Ceremony:

consistent performance above and beyond what is expected from station captains; the respect of his subordinates, peers and supervisors gained through his attitude, skills and willingness to assist other agencies.

His skill and demonstrated leadership abilities as an initial

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attack emergency incident commander; one who always cares for and ensures the safety of his firefighters; and assignment as manager of the Unit's Self Contained Breathing Apparatus program. In this capacity, he not only satisfies CDF's needs, but has also assisted local government and Federal agencies with their programs saving all agen-

cies thousands of dollars in inspection, maintenance and repair costs.

His long-term role as an instructor for the Unit's recruit fire fighter and returnee fire fighter academies. He always gives the extra effort and time to mentor the fire fighters and help develop a high caliber emergency response force.

Captain McMurry is respected by all for his ability to work with our own employees and other agencies. He is always willing to share his expertise with others. He makes sound decisions and he gives his all for the Department and the public.

2003 "Dispatcher of the Year"

by Janet Marshall, fire prevention specialist II, Butte Unit

Fire Captain Jeff McInturf of the Butte Unit's Emergency Command Center (ECC) was honored by the "Organization of Public Safety Telecommunicators", a subcommittee of the Elk's Lodge service organization, as CDF Fire/Butte County Fire Rescue's "Dispatcher of the Year". Captain McInturf was nominated by his peers and his supervisor, Battalion Chief Russ Fowler. Certainly, Jeff's Emergency Medical Dispatch instruction that ultimately saved a child's life was a contributing factor in the selection but his day to day performance in the Emergency Command Center was equally considered. Jeff is well respected by not only his peers and subordinates in the ECC, but by all Unit employees. His inter-

personal skills, good humor and genuine thoughtfulness towards the citizens he serves along with his consistent accuracy in his duties all led to the unanimous decision to select Jeff for this honor.

The family of the boy whose life Jeff help saved commended Jeff for his dedication, care, and professionalism during their family's crisis. Their son had suffered seizures and subsequent cardiac arrest in a remote area of Butte County. The following is an excerpt from a thank you note sent by the family:

"I am aware of what emergency personnel give to our society and I know it takes a toll on the dispatchers, firefighters,



and police officers when they are faced with something like this. I am forever grateful to all of you, for I could not do what you do. You are so special and touch so many lives... thank you for being there in our time of need."

Jeff's performance is indicative of the caliber of employees working for our department and is a credit to all those in CDF.

911 For Kids Hero Program Award for AEU

by Teri Mizuhara, fire prevention specialist II, Amador-El Dorado Unit

On February 24, 2003 at 3:21 pm, 11-year old Steven Vance, from Placerville, California called 911 as he had learned in school, because his mother, Janet Vance, had collapsed from a diabetic problem. Steven ended up speaking with CDF Fire Captain Dale

McGill of the Amador-El Dorado Unit Emergency Command Center (ECC). Steven was very nervous and frightened but quickly calmed down after Captain McGill assured him help was on the way and that there were a few things he could do to

help his mother out.

FC McGill walked Steven through the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocol for a diabetic experiencing complications all the while comforting Steven and making sure Mrs. Vance's status was not deterior-

rating. Steven stayed on the line with Captain McGill for 12 minutes until the paramedics arrived on scene and transported Mrs. Vance to the local hospital.

In the end Mrs. Vance fully recovered from the episode and Steven was her little hero. But this is not the end of the story. ECC Chief Mike Kaslin submitted the call to the "911 For Kids Hero Program" and nominated Steven for an award for having used the 911 emergency system to save the life of his mother.

On May 13, on the north steps of the State Capitol California Speaker Herb Wesson, San Francisco 49er Eric Wright, Oakland Raider Kenyon Coleman, and CHP Deputy Commissioner Joe Farrow presented the young heroes with their awards. Steven and three other children received a 911 Hero's medal, a certificate and a commendation letter. Fire Captain Dale McGill also received a



Certificate of Recognition from the 911 For Kids Program for his expert and professional management of the phone call. Captain McGill was surprised by the award and said that he was just doing his job and was glad that he was able to help the Vance family.

South Region Chief Candace Gregory noted "I was very proud to see a CDF employee honored for an outstanding response. It is very special for CDF to be recognized and thanked for doing what we consider to be our job." AEU ECC Chief Mike Kaslin

added "The ECC has the ability to have a profound effect on all patients. This is why dispatch is the hub of the emergency response circle. The chance to give CPR, deliver a baby, or use an automatic defibrillator happens on a case-by-case basis for field crews but these situations may be happening all at once in the ECC. Thus, EMD has an impact on 100 percent of emergency medical calls."

The 911 For Kids Program is a nationwide educational curriculum that teaches children the proper use of the 911 system. Locally in AEU, Camino ECC had a total of 19,245 incidents for 2002. Of those, 12,059 (63%) were medical related where EMD was used. That averages to 33 EMD calls each day.

Bench press winner

Congratulations to Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal Marc Yopez who in his first ever competition won the bench press competition at the 2002 Police and Fire Games held in Sacramento. Marc won the Men's Master-B 220.20 lbs and under class with a bench press lift of

152.5 KG (336lbs) tying the record from 2001. Congratulations Marc!

It's always a delightful surprise to discover the variety of talented folks we have in our department.



Hug-A-Bears donated to Fresno-Kings Unit

Joan Underdown, President of Fireman's Friend donated 150 stuffed animals to the "Hug-a-Bear" program for The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection/Fresno County and Fig Garden Fire Protection Districts on August 19, 2003.

The stuffed animals are given to children in time of stress by fire personnel on scene of home fires, auto accidents, and medical aids.

Fireman's Friend also presented CDF/FCFPD with 24 emergency care kits. These kits

are for the use of firefighters who are sent on out of county or long term assignments. The kits contain items useful for personal hygiene such as toothbrush, toothpaste, hand soap, baby

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wipes, razor, face cloth, comb, deodorant, shampoo, Kleenex and chewing gum.

Mrs. Underdown and The Fireman's Friend organization are also active in raising funds for the purchase and donation of thermal imaging helmets for various San Joaquin Valley Fire Departments. Their support, energy and contributions are greatly appreciated.



Fire Prevention Specialist II Karen Guillemín explains the Hug-A-Bear Program to the local media.

Bronze Smokey Award goes to property owners association

by Karen Guillemín, fire prevention specialist II and Craig Tolmie, unit forester, Fresno-Kings Unit

The National Association of State Foresters (NASF), the USDA Forest Service, and The Advertising Council sponsor the National Smokey Bear Awards. In addition to recognizing outstanding service with significant program impact in wild land fire prevention, the program increases public recognition and awareness of the need for con-

tinuing fire prevention efforts. The Smokey Bear Awards are the highest national honor one can receive for outstanding work in fire prevention. The award has been bestowed on deserving groups and individuals annually since 1957.

Unit Chief Steve Sunderland was pleased to make the presentation to the Pine Ridge Property Owners Association (PRPOA), the only California recipient of the Bronze Smokey in 2003. The ceremony took place October 6 at the Fresno-Kings Unit Fire Resistive Plant Demonstration Garden located at the Millerton Lake Visitor Center in Friant, California. In attendance were Assemblyman Steve Samuelian, 29th Assembly District; Representative Devin Nunes, 21st District Representative; and representatives from the offices of Senator Charles Poochigian,

The Bronze Smokey Award is presented to organizations or individuals that have provided outstanding service with significant impact within the state in wild land fire prevention for a period of at least two years.



These members of the Pine Ridge Property Owners Association were on hand when CDF Unit Chief Steve Sunderland presented the association with a Bronze Smokey for their fire safety efforts.

The Pine Ridge Property Owners Association represents a rural subdivision in northeastern Fresno County, California. The Pine Ridge tract contains 113 property parcels with approximately 103 different owners. The tract covers approximately 1,400 acres. There are 75 homes that are accessed by a single lane road system.

The tract is mid-slope on a west facing aspect at approximately 4,500 feet elevation, in the transition zone from brush to conifer forest. The tract is within a Priority Area for Fresno-Kings Unit's Pre-fire Projects and is also located within the federally designated "Community-at-Risk for Wildfire" of Shaver Lake, California.

The Pine Ridge Property Owners Association became involved in fire prevention activities in August 1998 when the Highway 168 Fire Safe Council was formed. From this time forward, the PRPOA has been very active in wildfire prevention activities. These activities range from involvement and support of the 168 Fire Safe Council to fuels reduction work within the tract to public education to formation of their own volunteer fire department and finally refurbishment of a unique mechanical talking Smokey Bear.

The PRPOA has been the backbone of the Highway 168 Fire Safe Council since its inception in August of 1998. Members of the Association attend every monthly meeting. They have developed three separate PowerPoint presentations for the Council use. For the 2002 Fresno County Fair, the PRPOA con-

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structed a tri-fold display highlighting the work that they have done in making their tract more fire safe.

The PRPOA first significant project was a sign project that produced tract map boards, address numbers, road signs, directional signs, water source signs and escape route signs. The Association made contacts through the Highway 168 Fire Safe Council. These contacts provided them with the materials and equipment to make the signs and they provided the workers. The new signage allows easy location of roads, homes and water sources within the tract.

The PRPOA has undertaken road improvements within their tract to make travel under emergency conditions safer. They have removed vegetation along the roads to increase visibility and reduce fuel loads. They have constructed turnouts to allow vehicle passing and ingress for emergency vehicles during evacuation conditions. While these items may seem like routine road maintenance issues, they were not considered or undertaken until the PRPOA understood how they were threatened by wildland fire and what impact it could have on their tract and their lives.

The PRPOA with minimal support established a volunteer fire department in July of 2000. The Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department has now grown to include five fire engines and one patrol unit with 17 fire fighters, three phone-tree dispatchers and six "Road Warriors" for directing traffic. All six fire department vehicles as well as most of the Departments equipment was secured through donations. The

vehicles were completely refurbished and repainted by Association members. The only outside funds to help the Department was a \$5,500 Federal Emergency Management Agency grant that they received for personal protective equipment. The Department responds to emergencies and supports burn projects within the tract.

The PRPOA created and distributed their "Pine Ridge Emergency Manual".

This 44 page emergency manual covers everything from emergency contacts to how to prepare and survive a wildfire.

The PRPOA designed, produced and distributed a vehicle window decal to tract landowners. This decal was designed to aid in proper identification of residents during emergency incidents.

In November of 2002, the PRPOA volunteered to refurbish the only remaining operational talking mechanical Smokey Bear in California. This is the last of five mechanical Smokey's that were originally created for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The only other remaining Smokey is on display in the Department's Mobile Smokey Bear Museum. The PRPOA has rebuilt Smokey's traveling container, reconditioned his mechanical arm and mouth and recorded new fire prevention messages.

The PRPOA was made aware of the potential of wildland fire impacting their tract and lives in 1998. Since that time they have taken the task of wildfire safety to heart and have become a model community for wildfire prevention and mitigation.

There are three levels of

awards given each year. All three awards are of the highest level, the only difference being the geographical area of the work nominated. The Golden Smokey Award is bestowed for National service, the Silver Smokey Award is bestowed for regional (multi-state) service and the Bronze Smokey Award is for impact within one state

Congratulations to the PRPOA for their outstanding accomplishments. It is our pleasure to work with such a terrific group of citizens.

###

Director's 2002 Annual Recognition Awards

Lewis A. Moran Award

Jeffrey L. Jones

Leadership Award

Tom O'Keefe

Innovation Award

Dana Peachman

Organizational Enhancement Award

Dorothy Williams

Firefighter of the Year Award

Greg McFadden

Superior Accomplishment Awards (Individuals)

Terry Anderson
Gilbert L. Anderson
Troy Baker
Shirley Barber
Michael Bertagna
Randy Bowersox
Kerry Bradford
Shelly Caalim
Alan Carlson
Mike Carr
Bob Ceriani
Don Clark
Rob Cone
John Elliff
Alta Glass-Schell
Pete Guilbert
John Hager
Alisha Herring
Shana Jones
Virginia Krippner
Thomas A. MacPherson
Scott McLean
Donna Mink
Patrick M. Murphy
Garrett Needles

Layne Norby
Ruth O'Leary
Dave Peak
Jeffrey Phillips
Kim A. Price
Darren Read
Ernie Rohl
Darryl Sanford
Hugh Scanlon
Mahlon Schanzenbach
Dan Slebiss
Dolores M. Spradlin
Dave Stonum
Robin L. Sykes
Joseph V. Tapia
Patty Thomas
Clem A. Towner Jr.
Fred Tulley
Steve Wallace
John Watt
Luke Wilson
Derek J. Witmer
Chris M. Zimny

Superior Accomplishment Awards (Teams)

TEAM

John Bartlett
Todd Derum
Tony Richardson

TEAM

Tim L. Main
Jim J. Rasjkup

TEAM

James Erler
Donald Morse
Robert Rutland
Fay Yee

TEAM

(Also 3 Partnership)
Bill Baxter
Todd Derum
Lou Sciocchetti
Mark Tolbert

TEAM

Jim Casaurang
Dan Chartier
Cindy Hopkins
Joe Roberson
Neverley Shoemake

TEAM

Lynn Borja
Doris Brengettsey
Betty Brewer
Nora Fuhrman
Kelly Mendonsa
Barbara Rowe
Faith Sorenson

TEAM

Christopher E. Browder
Nancy A. Carter
L. Wayne Connor
Shane P. Cunningham
Terri L. Gouvea
Antoinette L. Knight
Nancy J. Magner
Anna L. Stewart
Jeffrey S. Taylor
Victor W. Williams
Adam H. Wyman

TEAM

Benny Aguilar
Pete Bymers
Mike Clemens
Nancy Deveau
Cheryl Goetz
Deanna Grimstead
Marlene Heisey
Chelsye Jenkins
Grayson Magana
Janet Marshall
Scott McLean
George Morris III
Mark O'Neil
Teri Perry
Garrett Quigley
Leah Sandberg

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Shannon Sanders
Bill Sanders

TEAM

Mike Bowman
Chris Bump
Chaloea Champion
Edward Clayton
Jeff Davis
Shane Minor

TEAM

(Also 6 Partnership)

Tess Albin-Smith
Bill Baxter
Ted Enberg
Barbara Glavich
John Griffen
Marc Jameson
Loyde Johnson
Tom Kirk

TEAM

Tom Osipowich
Allen Robertson
Chris Rowney
Chuck Whatford
Luke Wilson

TEAM

Daniel Arjona
Marc DeRosier
Steve Faris
Neil R. Black
Steven M. Diaz
Lyle E. Drenth
Mark S. Hotchkiss
John W. King
Jeffery A. Nijinski
Carl L. Thomas
Steven M. Valenzuela

TEAM

Yvonne Butcher
Gloria Deroo
Roger Desrosiers
Dolores M. Spradlin

TEAM

Brad Dorken
Kelly Dreesmann
Scott McDonald
Brian Noel

TEAM

Richard A. Hood
William E. Lloyd
Cyrus E. McCormick
Eben M. McElhinny
Monty M. Messenger
Dale J. Wilson

Partnership Awards

Brian Bianchi
Brian L. Hinman
Butte County Fire Safe Council
David Woolley
Don Steele
Jim Pena
John P. "Jack" Sweeley
Kim D. Zagaris
Pat Kidder
Redwood Sciences Lab
Santa Rosa Jr. College
Selma Harris

TEAM

Dave Allacia
George Fields
Liz Keppeler
Susan Lam
Audie Nishida
Robert Ziemer

TEAM

Jim Dawson
Bob Kiefer
Jennifer Potts

TEAM

Calif. Fire Fighter JAC
Mary Jennings

TEAM

Capt. George Kneeshaw
Lieutenant Bob Curry